

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1014
By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Gwendolyn E. Boyd,
Founders Day Speaker for the Memphis
Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,
Inc.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens and have excelled in a wide range of endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Gwendolyn E. Boyd is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; on March 27, 2004, she will be the featured speaker for the Memphis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.'s Founders Day; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Ms. Boyd has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, a native of Montgomery, Alabama, she completed her elementary and secondary education in the public school system there before attending Alabama State University on scholarship and graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and dual minors in Physics and Music; and

WHEREAS, fully cognizant of the immense value of education, this gifted woman earned a fellowship to Yale University, where she was the first African-American female to earn a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering; and

WHEREAS, as a professional, she has continued to be a pioneer and reach the highest levels of success; Ms. Boyd is the Assistant for Development Programs at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, where she has earned the respect and admiration of her peers for her professionalism and the unsurpassed quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, her leadership and vision is sought by a number of organizations, and she has served as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Children's National Medical Center and Children's Research Institute, founding Chair of the Board of Directors of the National

Partnership for Community Leadership, President of the Board of United Way of the National Capital Area, and a member of the Bennett College for Women Board of Visitors and the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, a remarkably active and valuable member of her profession and her community, she has also been affiliated with the Advisory Council of the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Physical Science for Tuskegee University, the Society of Women Engineers, the Metropolitan Area Network of Minority Women in Science, Leadership Washington, the Capital City Chapter of The Links, Inc., the Montgomery County Branch of the NAACP, the National Council of Negro Women, Alabama State University Alumni Association, the Association of Yale Alumni, and the Meyerhoff Scholarship Program at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS, this wonderful American never takes for granted the responsibilities of success and freely shares her time and talents as a role model for young people interested in careers in math, science, and engineering; a talented speaker, she has also delivered speeches and seminars on a wide variety of topics nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd is renowned across the nation as a remarkably able leader, and she serves as National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., an international service sorority with over 200,000 members in more than 950 chapters worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the personal and professional excellence of Gwendolyn Boyd has been recognized with countless honors, including the Anheuser Busch Leadership Award and the Baltimore Chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women Community Service Award; recognition in *Who's Who Among African Americans*, *US Black Engineer & Information Technology*, *Washingtonian*, and *Outstanding Young Women in America*; Gwendolyn E. Boyd Days in four cities; keys to the city in thirteen cities; the 2000 Black Engineer of the Year Outstanding Alumnus Achievement Award; Congressional commendations from Representative Juanita Millender McDonald and Chairman Kweisi Mfume; the National Council of Education Opportunity Association National Trio Award; recognition by the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys as Distinguished Woman of the Year in Science and Technology; the National Black Engineer of the Year Award for Community Service; the Washington, D.C., Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Eliza P. Shippen Public

Service Award; the Department of Housing and Urban Development Public Service Award in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; the Fortitude Image Award from the Prince George's County Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and the United Way/United Black Fund Management Services, Inc. Community Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, her professional and civic accomplishments aside, she is a devout Christian and an active member of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Fort Washington, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Gwendolyn Boyd is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that are cherished in the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Gwendolyn E. Boyd for living the examined life with courage and conviction, honor her for her many contributions to the public good in this great nation, and welcome her to Tennessee during her visit to speak at Founders Day for the Memphis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on March 27, 2004.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.